488,320

_ABSTRACT_OF_THE_DISCLOSURE

Reproduction accuracy of, for example a digital stereo audio signal, is improved by transmitting sample data as sub-signals such as frequency subband signals. In one or more subbands, corresponding components such as left and right stereo channels are combined so that only one composite signal is transmitted per subband. An indicator signal is transmitted, indicating which subbands are combined. Scale factor signals for all subbands, and for the relative intensity of the respective subband signals which were combined, may also be transmitted. In the receiver a subband signal is derived for each channel from the composite signal, before synthesis of the full channel signals which will be reproduced.

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